

CITY OF ALAMEDA

Memorandum

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: John A. Russo
City Manager

Date: July 5, 2011

Re: Approve a Consultant Agreement for \$60,000 with Pacific Waste Services, Inc. for the Operation and Maintenance of the Alameda Doolittle Landfill

BACKGROUND

The Doolittle Landfill is a closed solid waste disposal site located on the northeast corner of Bay Farm Island. The landfill, which is approximately 40 acres, is bounded by San Leandro Bay and Channel on the north, Doolittle Drive on the west and south, and the Doolittle Pond on the east. Owned by the City of Alameda, the landfill was operated by the Alameda City Disposal Company for the disposal of municipal waste from 1953 to 1981. In 1985, the City received the necessary regulatory approvals, and the landfill was placed in a post-closure maintenance status.

The current post-closure maintenance of the Doolittle Landfill is regulated by the waste discharge requirements of the California Regional Water Quality Control Board (RWQCB), the permit requirements of the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD), and the oversight of the Alameda County Health Agency Office of Solid and Medical Waste Management. According to current regulations, "the operator of a solid waste landfill may be released from post closure, after a minimum of thirty (30) years upon demonstration ... that the solid waste landfill no longer poses a threat to the public health and safety and the environment." The Doolittle Landfill has been in the post-closure maintenance phase for 26 years.

DISCUSSION

As part of the post-closure regulatory and permit requirements, the City is required to extract methane from the landfill. This is accomplished through an extensive network of heavy-duty plastic pipes and wells, which collect the gas and deliver it to a flare structure, where it is incinerated. The flare structure is operated a minimum of eight hours a day, seven days a week.

City Council
Agenda Item #5-F
07-05-11

The Public Works Department contracts with Pacific Waste Services, Inc. (PWS) to provide air quality related maintenance, monitoring, and reporting tasks associated with releasing the methane gas.

The specific tasks that PWS performs are:

1. Bi-weekly monitoring and maintenance of the landfill gas collection, extraction, and flare system
2. Bi-monthly site observations and completion of the Systems Management Plan observations reports as required by RWQCB Work Order 95-189
3. Quarterly inspections for site security and drainage, erosion, and litter control
4. Regrading the landfill surface to eliminate ponding and ensure proper drainage profile
5. Annual mowing of weeds for fire control
6. Annual system evaluation and site inspection with BAAQMD personnel and preparation of findings report, including implementation of corrective actions, as required
7. Provide system repairs, materials, special projects, and other related work on an as-needed basis
8. Emergency call-outs to meet the regulatory requirement to limit downtime to less than four hours whenever the flare shuts down

PWS has provided excellent and highly responsive service to the City since 1998. In accordance with Section 2-59.3 of the Alameda Municipal Code, City Council approval is required for any contract that extends beyond five years. Staff requests approval to enter into an agreement with PWS through June 30, 2012, with the ability to annually extend the contract for up to four additional years, based on mutual agreement and satisfactory performance of all aspects of the contract. PWS is specially trained, experienced, and competent to perform the services. They have a good working relationship with the Public Works Department and RWQCB staffs and are responsive to questions and concerns. In addition, PWS technicians have a thorough knowledge of the City's unique system of well fields, electronic controls, and hardware associated with the flare site.

A copy of the contract is on file in the City Clerk's office.

FINANCIAL IMPACT

The funds for this project are budgeted in the Public Works Department's account for Capital Improvement Program (5438805) Doolittle Landfill Closure with monies

Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

July 5, 2011
Page 3 of 3

allocated from the Solid Waste Fee Surcharge Fund (Fund 270). There is no impact to the General Fund.

MUNICIPAL CODE/POLICY DOCUMENT CROSS REFERENCE

This action does not affect the Alameda Municipal Code.

RECOMMENDATION

Approve a Consultant Agreement for \$60,000 with Pacific Waste Services, Inc. for the operation and maintenance of the Alameda Doolittle Landfill.

Respectfully submitted,



Matthew T. Naclerio
Public Works Director

By,



Jesse Barajas
Public Works Superintendent

Approved as to funds and account,



Fred Marsh
Controller

Exhibit:

1. Agreement - on file in the City Clerk's Office